Mary Fearey of Heckington (1866-1910) and her family
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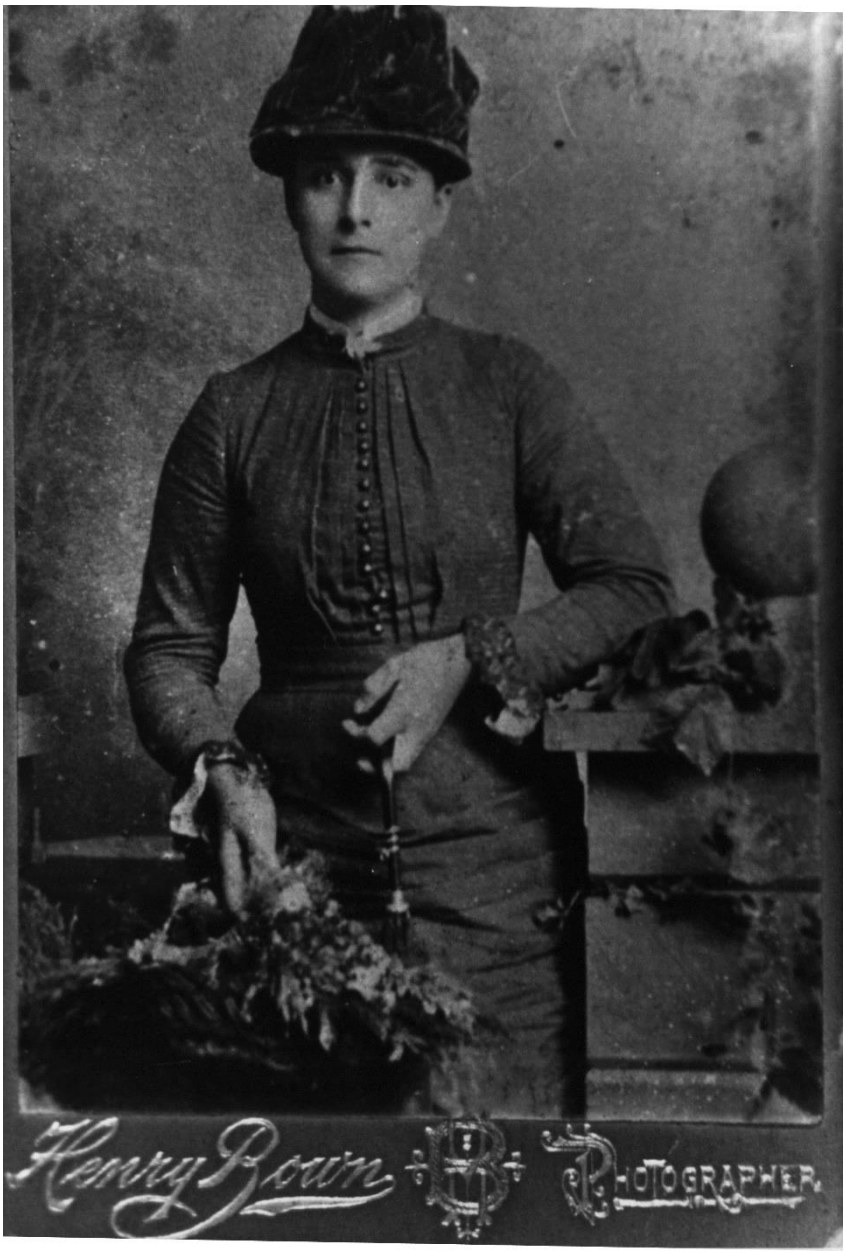
by Francis Howcutt



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Contents

	Page
Introduction	3
Sources	4
Place names	4
The Fearey surname	4
Edward Fearey & Harby Sneath: 3x great grandparents	5
Possible origins in Peterborough	6
Robert Fearey & Mary (Rouse) Haddon: 2x great grandparents	6
Heckington and Great Hale	7
Robert Fearey & Catherine Greetham: great grandparents	9
Anthony Fearey & Mary Flatters: grandparents	10
William Fearey & Ann Colby: parents	13
Mary Fearey (1866-1910)	15
Thomas Fearey (1854-1934): brother	18
Anthony Fearey (1856-1857): brother	20
Betsey Fearey (1858-): sister	20
Jane Fearey (1860-1917): sister	21
John Fearey (1862-1932): brother	21
Edward Fearey (1864-1942): brother	22
Kate Fearey (1871-1949): sister	23
Appendix A: Fearey marriages in Lincolnshire 1700-1800	24
Appendix B: Thomas & Elizabeth Feary at Market Deeping	25
Appendix C: Edward Feary & Elizabeth Capendale	27
Appendix D: The Feary family at Sutterton	28
Appendix E: Evidence of William Fearey, 1880	29
Appendix F: Descent of Mary Fearey from Edward Fearey	30

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Introduction

This account of the life of Mary Fearey includes her Fearey ancestors and her close relatives. In the 1880s, Mary and most of her siblings, as well as their widowed mother, moved away from the poverty and isolation of the Lincolnshire fens to destinations that included Lincoln, Northampton, Manchester, Leicester and London. For at least some of them and their children it offered greater opportunities than those likely to be found in and around Heckington during the agricultural depression at the end of the 19th century.

Appendices C and D set out evidence that the Feary family who lived at Sutterton in the 19th century were descended from Robert (c.1776-1831), a son of Edward Fearey & Elizabeth Capendale. That individual is liable to be confused with his cousin, also named Robert Fearey (1777-1816), who established the family at Heckington and was the son of Robert Fearey & Mary Haddon (formerly Rouse) and also the great grandfather of Mary Fearey.

Thank you to:

- The National Archives[1] and Lincolnshire Archives[2] for curating and making available parish registers, probate and other historical documents.
- Internet Archive[3], the National Library of Scotland[4], FamilySearch[5] and Wikimedia Commons[6] for making freely available online digitised versions of books, maps, pictures and other resources.
- A Vision of Britain Through Time[7] which freely provides a vast amount of historical material, much of which is copyright of the Great Britain Historical GIS Project and the University of Portsmouth.
- FreeBMD[8] for transcribing and making freely available indexes of 295 million records of births, marriages and deaths registered in England & Wales.
- FreeREG[9] for providing free access to its indexes of 62 million records transcribed from parish registers.
- Heckington Past for sharing a large collection of pictures and information.[10]

The Internet links cited were checked on the date of this Introduction. If you find one that no longer works or its destination has changed for the worse, the Wayback Machine may be able to help you find the material that used to be there.[11]

Mary Fearey was my great grandmother.

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23 April 2026
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[1] https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/
[2] https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/history-heritage/lincolnshire-archives
[3] https://archive.org/
[4] https://maps.nls.uk/os/
[5] https://www.familysearch.org/en/united-kingdom/
[6] https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Images
[7] https://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/
[8] https://www.freebmd.org.uk/
[9] https://www.freereg.org.uk/
[10] https://www.facebook.com/groups/174078092693458
[11] https://web.archive.org/

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Sources

Primary sources consulted for information about this family include census returns, parish registers, bishops transcripts and newspaper reports. Indexes compiled by FindMyPast (FMP), FamilySearch and FreeREG have helped to find entries in the parishes whose registers had not been searched page-by-page. Other records kept at Lincolnshire Archives, such as wills and apprenticeship papers, have also contributed.

Place names

Unless otherwise stated, all the places mentioned are in Lincolnshire. However, there is scope for confusion:

- Corby – For a short period around 1801, members of the Fearey family from Lincolnshire lived at Corby, a village some 11 miles south of Grantham. This is now usually called Corby Glen to distinguish it from the much larger town in Northamptonshire which is also called Corby. The latter was a small village until well into the 20th century but its parish register does include references to people called Feary (without a known connection to Lincolnshire) from 1755 onwards.
- Thurlby – No fewer than three places in Lincolnshire are called Thurlby. The one where members of the Fearey family have been found is about three miles south of Bourne and sometimes referred to as Thurlby-by-Bourne.

The Fearey surname

Fearey was not a common name in 18th-century Lincolnshire. Between 1700 and 1800, a total of 12 marriages of people with the surname or a plausible variation have been found in the county (see Appendix A). Research into the history of the family is difficult because many of its members were illiterate, even in the latter part of the 19th century, and the people who wrote documents that mentioned them adopted varying spellings for the surname. It is not always clear when written surnames are variations of Fearey or if they refer to unconnected families. Fearey, Feary and Fairy are probably all interchangeable. Fery is ambiguous, as it could be a variation of Ferry. Furry can be variation of Fearey or Ferry. Farrah and Farrow are generally distinct surnames though they may on occasions have been used in place of Fearey. This article generally uses the spelling Fearey, but there is no particular "correct" version. Both the Fearey and Feary spellings are used by present-day descendants of the family that lived at Heckington.

In some cases, a surname has been wrongly transcribed as Fearey in an index. For instance, 'Fearey' has been written as the surname in a modern index for these events that were actually recorded in the Thurlby register with the spelling shown below:

- 24 January 1774 – burial of Isaac Frasey, a mason
- 26 March 1778 – marriage of Ann Frasey, a widow

There are many 18th-century and earlier references to people with the Fearey surname and its close variations in Huntingdonshire and Northamptonshire; both counties adjoin south Lincolnshire, so it is likely that at least some of the Feareys who lived in them were related to those in Lincolnshire. As will be explained later, there are indications that the earliest forebear of the Heckington Feareys came from Peterborough and of a possible connection between those at Market Deeping and villages in Northamptionshire.

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Edward Fearey & Harby Sneath: 3x great grandparents

On 11 February 1745/1746, the marriage of a couple described as Edward Fery and Harvey Sneath took place at Spalding, Lincolnshire, a market town whose population amounted to 3,296 people at the time of the 1801 census. The only earlier reference in the register for that parish to a person with Edward's surname is the marriage of John Ashwell and Mary Fery on 17 September 1720. The connection between Mary and Edward, if any, is not known. In view of her unusual name, there is little doubt that Edward's wife was Harby, a daughter of Maurice Sneath (1683-1727) and his wife Harby Troop (1688/9-1737), who had been baptised at Witham-on-the-hill (about 16 miles west of Spalding) on 17 February 1725/6 and for whom no burial or alternative marriage record has been found in Lincolnshire. By the time of the marriage Harby Sneath was about 20 years old; Edward, as we shall see, was probably much older.

Spalding parish church in 1801[12]

The couple who married in 1745/1746 set up home at Thurlby - about three miles east of Witham – which had a population amounting to 508 in 1801. All their children were baptised at Thurlby and it was there that the three who died as infants were buried:

Name	Baptised	Married	Buried
Edward	1746	n/a	1746
William	1747	n/a	1747
Harby	1748	John Rawlinson 1778	1781
Mary	1751	Richard Hill 1780	1785
Edward	1754	Elizabeth Capendale 1776	1784
Thomas	1756	n/a	1756
Robert	1757	Mary (Rouse) Haddon 1777	1834

The five latter christenings on this list were all recorded as children of 'Edward & Harby', but in 1746 and 1747 the parish register records the parents as 'Edward & Mary Feary' and 'Edward & Abigil Feary' respectively. There can, however, be no real doubt that all seven children were full siblings, particularly as the baptism of the first child called Edward took place on 8 November 1746, which is just under nine months after the date of the

[12] Engraving by William & Hilkiah Burgess.

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marriage at Spalding. The names shown for the mother on the first two occasions may have been mistakes or, possibly, nicknames less unusual than her christian name.

Apart from John Furry & Elizabeth Hewson who married in 1756 at Fulstow (which is in the northern part of Lincolnshire, some 56 miles from Spalding), the only Feareys or plausible variations who have been found in Lincolnshire during the latter part of the 18th century but do not have a clear connection with Edward and Harby are the family of Thomas & Elizabeth Feary of Market Deeping (see Appendix B).

'Harby Feary, widow' was buried at Thurlby on 4 May 1767. This indicates that Edward had died at some stage during the ten years that had passed since the baptism of their youngest child. The only plausible burial found in a search of the FreeREG for Lincolnshire and adjacent counties and of the FMP index to its scans of Lincolnshire registers is that of 'Edward Furry' aged 60, who was buried at Spalding on 1 May 1763, as confirmed by the parish register. The age recorded on that occasion indicates that if this is the same man who married Harby in 1745/6, he would then have been about 43 years old at the time. In that case, it is likely he had been married previously, but no evidence of an earlier marriage or any children from it has so far emerged.

The four children left parentless when Harby died were her daughter Harby (aged 18), Mary (16), Edward (12) and Robert (9). It may not have been long before they all moved the 14 miles from Thurlby to Surfleet - a parish four miles north of Spalding - with 609 inhabitants in 1801. A number of Sneath family entries appear in the Surfleet parish register during the 18th century, which suggests the children's mother well may have had relatives living there. The marriages of three of the four Fearey siblings took place by banns at Surfleet, all being described as residents and all making their marks in the register:

- 23 April 1776 – Edward Fearey & Elizabeth Capendale
- 21 April 1778 – Harvey Feary & John Rawlinson
- 13 February 1780 – Mary Feary & Richard Hill of St John the Baptist, Peterborough.

Possible origins in Peterborough

The burial record at Spalding indicates that 'Edward Furry' was born about 1702-1703. The only baptism that has been found of a person with his name or a variation during the first ten years of the 18th century is at St John, Peterborough, where 'Edwd son of Wm. Feary' was baptised on 26 April 1702. There does not appear to be an infant burial or suitable marriage for that child at Peterborough or Northamptonshire. The registers of the populous parish of St John contain at least 33 entries during 1660-1750 for people with the Feary surname or a variation, including the baptisms of other children of William Feary in 1699, 1700 and 1705.

Peterborough is about 18 miles from Spalding. There is no proof that Harby Sneath's husband originated at Peterborough but such a connection does seem very plausible.

Robert Fearey & Mary (Rouse) Haddon: 2x great grandparents

Robert Feary was a bachelor when he married Mary Haddon, a widow, at West Deeping – which was the home of 216 people in 1801 - on 1 December 1777. Both Robert and Mary made their marks rather than signing the register.

Mary's husband was almost certainly not a son or grandson of Thomas and Elizabeth Feary of Market Deeping, which is about two miles away with a population of 803 in 1801, as no suitable baptism emerged from page-by-page searches starting in 1739 of the West

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Deeping and Market Deeping registers or from the FMP baptism index for the county. Moreover, when Thomas signed his will on 25 June 1786 he did not mention a son or grandchildren. It is much more probable that the parents of Mary's husband were Edward and Harby; their son Robert was baptised at Thurlby, only six miles north of West Deeping, in 1757 and not buried at Thurlby as an infant or married there.

Mary Rouse had been a spinster when she married Charles Haddon at West Deeping in 1770. Their children, Elizabeth and Mary, were christened there during the following two years and Charles Haddon buried in 1775. On 8 February 1777, Mary's "bastd." [bastard] son Robert was christened. It is almost certain that her second husband (who had the same christian name and whom she married under a year later) was the father because:

- There is no record of the child dying in infancy. The only marriage found in Lincolnshire that could be his is when Robert Feary of Corby married Catherine Greetham at Heckington in 1801
- When Catherine's husband was buried at Great Hale on 4 May 1816, his age was recorded as 39, which is consistent with the 1777 baptism at West Deeping.

Robert was only about 20 years old at the time of the marriage; maybe the reason for the ceremony being delayed involved doubts about the wisdom of such a youth marrying a widow with two children from her previous marriage.

Robert and Mary had two children christened at Market Deeping. Their daughter Jane was baptised in 1778 and Eleanor, daughter of William and Mary Feary, appears in the baptism register in 1780. That the father's name was shown in error on the latter occasion is confirmed by the burials at Market Deeping, both on 23 July 1781, of Mary, wife of Robert Feary and also of Eleanor, daughter of Robert and Mary Feary.

This table summarises key events in the lives of Robert and Mary's children:

	Baptised	Married	Buried
Robert	1777	Catherine Greetham 1801	1816
Jane	1778		
Eleanor	1780	n/a	1781

Robert Fearey appears to have remained in the vicinity for the remaining 52 years of his life. There is no indication that he married again and he was described as aged 78 when he was buried at Market Deeping on 23 February 1834. This figure points to his birth being in 1755 or 1756, which is very close to the date (18 December 1757) when Edward and Harby's child was christened with the same name at Thurlby.

Heckington and Great Hale

Heckington is a village on the historic road that connects Sleaford (five miles to the west) with Boston (twelve miles to the east). A by-pass now takes through traffic between those towns away from the centre of Heckington. The population of the parish amounted to 1,042 in 1801 and had increased to 1,766 by 1891. None of the later censuses record a higher figure until after 1971.

Great Hale had a population of 627 in 1801. The village is no more than one mile south of the centre of the village of Heckington and they now form a continuous built-up area. Both parishes include extensive fenland to the east of their main settlements; it was in the fens that many of the Fearey family lived at various stages in the 19th century. The map below was the result of a survey completed in 1820 and first published in 1824. The sheet from which it has been taken was printed in 1862 and had at least partly been

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revised as it features the station that was opened at Heckington in 1859 to serve passengers on the Boston, Sleaford and Midland Counties Railway.

Heckington & Great Hale (printed 1862)[13]

Historic England provides details of the parish churches of:

- St Andrew, Heckington[14]
- St John the Baptist, Great Hale[15]

Both are grade I listed buildings. Their fonts both date from the 14th-century and are presumably the ones used for the baptism of numerous members of the Fearey family and their forebears.

Heckington church before 1866

[13] https://maps.nls.uk/view/257576858
[14] https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1360590?section=official-list-entry
[15] https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1168767?section=official-list-entry

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Heckington church about 1900

Robert Fearey & Catherine Greetham: great grandparents

Robert Fearey of Corby married Catherine Greetham of Heckington at her parish church on 16 February 1801. Robert signed his name in the register with the spelling 'Robert Feary' and Catherine made her mark.

Catherine had been baptised at Heckington on 11 August 1757, the oldest of the seven children of Richard Greetham (1757-1848) and his wife Sarah Richardson (1751-1828).

Robert and Catherine had these children:

Name	Baptised/born*	Married	Died
Anthony	1801	Mary Flatters 1823 Ann Warrington 1862	1874
Hugh	1802	Sophia Gadd 1825	1802
Mary	c.1805*[16]	William Brothwell 1835	1883[17]
Richard	1806	Mary Tunard 1827 Mary Lacy 1860	1887
Jane	1808		
Robert	1812	n/a	1819
William	1815	Lucy Patchet 1843	1886
Edward	1816	Mary Reynolds 1843	1844

Apart from Anthony and Mary, all of the children were christened at Great Hale. According to the 1851 census, Mary was born at Great Hale; however, there is no record of her baptism in the register of that parish.

[16] Mary Feary, a spinster, married 'William Brothill' of Ewerby, Lincolnshire, a bachelor, at Great Hale on 4 June 1835. In his will (made 13 December 1850), Anthony Greetham of Great Hale Fen identified himself as a brother of Catherine Fearey deceased and mentioned his niece Mary Brothel, wife of 'William Brothel' of Kirkstead, Lincs., labourer. The 1851 census includes William Brothwell (born at Ewerby) and his wife Mary (aged 45 and born at Great Hale) who were then living at The Fen, Nocton. This evidence establishes that Mary was a daughter of Robert & Catherine (Greetham) Fearey and born about 1805.

[17] Mary Brothwell (born at Great Hale) appears at Nocton in each census from 1851 to 1881, but not in the 1891 census. *Lincolnshire Chronicle*, 25 May 1883, page 8, column 1 reported the death at Nocton Fen on 14 May 1883 of Mary Brothwell, widow, aged 76.

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Robert was described as a cottager of Great Hale Fen aged 39 when he was buried at Great Hale on 4 May 1816. Catherine was left to bring up 7 or 8 children, the oldest of who was 14 years old.

Catherine married Christopher Barnett, a widower of the same parish, at Great Hale on 18 November 1819. Christopher's first wife had been Catherine Wilson, whom he had married at Burton Pedwardine in 1806 and who was buried at Great Hale on 30 July 1818. That marriage produced at least four children who were baptised at Great Hale between 1807 and 1817. None of these children were buried there as infants, so after Christopher married Catherine Fearey their combined household may have included as many as 11 children.

Christopher and Catherine did not have any children christened at Great Hale. Catherine was buried there on 7 June 1837. Her husband appears to have been the Christopher Barnett in the 60-64 age group who was recorded as living on his own at Water Lane, New Sleaford in the 1841 census. Christopher Barnett, aged 60, of Sleaford was buried at New Sleaford on 11 February 1844.

Anthony Fearey & Mary Flatters: grandparents

Anthony was born at Corby, Lincolnshire and baptised there on 19 April 1801.

He was living at Great Hale when he married Mary Flatters of Langtoft on 16 April 1823 at Heckington. Both made their marks in the register, as did David Flatters who was one of the witnesses. Mary had been born at Langtoft on 6 February 1803. She was sixth of the seven children of Thomas Flatters (1758-1817) and his wife Elizabeth Barnsdale (1764-1845).

Anthony and Mary were the parents of these children:

Name	Baptised/born*	Married	Died
Sarah	1823	Timothy Challans 1843	1880
Mary	1824	n/a	1825
Marianne	1827	Richard Smith 1848	
Thomas	1829	Martha Searle 1856	1892
William	1831	Ann Colby 1853	1880
Anthony	1833	Ann Horton 1854	1902
John	1835		
Catherine	1839*	n/a	1839
Edward	1841	n/a	1841
Elizabeth	1841	n/a	1841
Edward	1844	Anne Meanwell 1867	1917

All the children were baptised at Heckington, apart from Catherine (birth registered but no baptism record found) and Edward and Elizabeth who were both baptised at Swineshead.

As early as 1831, Anthony was described in the Heckington baptism register as a toll-keeper of Heckington Fen.

In January 1838, an auction of various lots of timber at nearby farms was advertised to take place at 'the house of Mr Anthony Feary, the Oat Sheaf Inn, in Heckington Fen'.[18]

[18] *Stamford Mercury*, 12 January 1838, page 2, column 7.

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The Oat Sheaf Inn was situated at East Heckington on the north side of the main road from Heckington to Swineshead. It ceased to be used as a public house in 1966 and the building is now an ordinary house.

Evidently, Anthony had left the Oat Sheaf Inn by May 1840, when an advertisement appeared for freehold and tithe-free property at Heckington Fen that included 'a newly-erected brick and slated Dwelling-house, with a Grocer's and a Draper's Shop attached, as also an excellent Bakehouse and spacious Garden thereto adjoining, in the occupation of Mr. Anthony Feary.'[19]

The 1841 census records Anthony Feary as a toll bar keeper living in the parish of Swineshead with his wife Mary and their children Mary, Thomas, William, Anthony and John. Later that year, Anthony appeared before the Holland magistrates to answer a summons for demanding toll on the morning of a recent election at Sleaford from Mr William Tooms of Donington, who was an elector on his road to the nomination of candidates. The magistrates advised the parties to settle the matter amicably and Anthony eventually paid the costs, which amounted to £1.13s.[20]

Maybe that incident encouraged Anthony to move on from toll collection, as by the time his last child was christened in 1844 he was working as a higler (i.e. a door-to-door vendor).

Anthony Greetham (1779-1850) was a brother of Catherine Greetham who had married Robert Feary in 1801 and described as a farmer and grazier of Great Hale Fen when he made his will on 13 December 1850. Along with bequests to others, Anthony left £30 to each of Catherine's four surviving sons, including 'Anthony Fearey of Heckington Fen, labourer'.[21] However, there is considerable doubt about whether these bequests were ever received. A report on the outcome of the case 'Dring v Greetham' which was decided in 1852 states that when Anthony Greetham died there were numerous debts, just one of which exhausted the entire proceeds of the personal estate.[22]

Anthony and Mary Fearey were living with their children Thomas and Edward at Heckington at the time of the 1851 census. By then, Anthony was working as a gardener, as was Thomas. Subsequent censuses indicate that Anthony continued as a market gardener for most if not all of the remainder of this life.

In 1861, Anthony's home was a house in Back Street, Heckington, along with his wife Mary, Henry Chalins (his nephew) and George Feary, who was a 6-year-old scholar. George also was described as a nephew but it appears that he was really a grandson of Anthony and Mary, as a son of Anthony Fearey (junior) and Ann had been christened with the name George at Heckington on 29 October 1854.

Back Street was the northern part of the road that is now called Eastgate and lacked sanitation until 1889, the water supply being from a pump.[23]

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[19] *Stamford Mercury*, 22 May 1840, page 2, column 5.
[20] *Lincoln, Rutland & Stamford Mercury*, 13 August 1841, page 3, column 3.
[21] Lincolnshire Archives: Miscellaneous deposits 198/67 - also
Lincolnshire Archives: LCC WILLS/1851/182.
[22] The *Revised Reports; being a republication of such cases in the English courts of common law and equity, from the year 1785 as are still of practical utility*, edited by Sir Frederick Pollock, volume XCVIII, page 484.
https://archive.org/details/revisedreportsb74courgoog/page/434/mode/2up?q=%22anthony+greetham%22
[23] Information from Ted Houghty.
https://freepages.rootsweb.com/~heckington/genealogy/Description/description.html

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Eastgate, Heckington

Mary, wife of Anthony Fearey, died of pneumonia on 24 April 1861. She was commemorated by a large slate headstone in Heckington churchyard which also mentioned five of their children as having died in infancy.[24]

Anthony's second marriage was to Ann Warrington, daughter of Robert Warrington (a labourer), and took place at Heckington on 16 September 1862. Her age at the time was given as 39, indicating that she had been born about 1823 and so over 20 years younger than her husband. An attempt to conceal this disparity appears in the 1871 census when Anthony's age was whittled down to 62 and Ann's stated as 47. They were then living at Fen Road. The census record states that Ann had been born in Burton Pedwardine – a village about 2½ miles south-west of Heckington. Both Anthony and Ann made their marks in the register.

On 22 December 1862 Anthony Fearey of Heckington, gardener sold for £20 a plot of garden ground at Heckington Fen to Charles John Bullivant Parker of Abbey Parks, Great Hale. The land was on the south side of the turnpike road from Sleaford to Boston and amounted to about 1 rood & 1 perch. The conveyance stated that the land formed part of the frontage to Parker's estate and that Anthony had enclosed and taken possession of it in 1826 and that it had ever since been in his uninterrupted occupation.[25]

Anthony Fearey died at Heckington of apoplexy on 24 December 1874 and was buried there three days later.

In 1881, Anthony's widow Ann was a market gardener, living at Howell Road, Heckington with her two nephews, Thomas and Frederic Warrington.

By the 1891 census, Ann had moved to Kyme Road, Heckington where she was living with her brother Marshall Warrington and still working as a market gardener. Ten years later, Ann and Marshall were again recorded as sharing a home but had moved to a four-roomed dwelling at Cowgate. Ann was continuing to work as a market gardener on her own account.

Ann Fearey aged 77 was buried at Heckington on 27 January 1902.

[24] The tombstone was seen in 1970 but it is not known whether it is still in place.
[25] Lincolnshire Archives: White 11/4/6

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William Fearey & Ann Colby: parents

The Heckington parish register and bishops transcripts both includes the christening on 10 July 1831 of William, son of William & Mary Feary, the father's occupation being given as a toll keeper. There is overwhelming evidence that the Christian name written for the child's father was a mistake for Anthony:

- Anthony & Mary Feary were the parents of seven other children christened at Heckington between 1823 and 1844. Of these baptisms two (in 1833 and 1835) refer to Anthony as a toll-keeper of Heckington Fen.
- The 1841 census of the parish of Swineshead includes Anthony Feary, a toll bar keeper, with Mary Feary (both in the 35 to 39 year-old age group) and five Feary children including William aged 10. There is no christening at Heckington that could relate to this William apart from the 1831 entry where the father's name was written as 'William'.
- No other children of a William Feary appear in the Heckington baptism register before 1856.
- There is no burial in the Heckington register for a William Feary between 1831 and 1841.
- Anthony's brother William was described as a bachelor when he married Lucy Newton at Sleaford on 11 June 1843 and so could not have been the father of the child who was christened in 1831.
- When William Fearey married Ann Colby in 1853, his father's name was recorded as Anthony Fearey.

In the 1851 census, William Feary aged 19 was a farm servant living at Holt Hills in the parish of Swineshead. He was presumably employed by Richard Hides, the head of the household, who was described as a farmer of 147 acres employing five men. Holt Hills was a remote area more than two miles by road west of the village of Swineshead.

William Fearey married Ann Colby at Heckington on 4 January 1853. Ann signed her name in the register but William made a mark. The witnesses were Anthony Fearey and Letitia Woods, who also both made their marks. Ann was the sixth of seven children born to William Colby (1792-1870) and his wife Mary Lambert (1795-1873).

William and Ann's children were:

Name	Born	Married	Died
Thomas	c.1854	Ann Elizabeth Emerson 1882	1934
Anthony	1856	n/a	1857
Betsey	1858	John Tilley 1881	
Jane	1860	Beaumont Chambers 1885	1917
John	1862	Alice Cross 1889	1932
Edward	1864	Marion Bowkett 1890	1942
Mary	1866	Edwin Dalby 1888	1910
Kate	1871	Brice Marriott 1889 James Richard Clements 1900	1949

Heckington was the birthplace of all the children apart from Thomas (who was born at Chichester) and Kate (born at Swineshead).

The family did not stay in Sussex for long as they were living at Heckington when Anthony, the next child, was christened on 2 November 1856.

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The 1861 census recorded William and Ann at Back Street, Heckington with their children Thomas, Betsey and Jane.

By the 1871 census, William was living at Holt Hills, Swineshead with Ann and their children Tom, Betsey, Jane, John, Edward and Mary. All the children were then scholars, apart from Tom who like his father was an agricultural labourer.

In March 1880, readers of the *Boston Guardian, Skegness Advertiser & Lincolnshire Independent* were startled to see this headline:

THE SWINESHEAD SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION.

The report[26] that followed ran to more than three columns of tightly-packed prose. A full house attended the hearing at Boston on 3 March 1880 when the magistrates of North Holland Petty Sessions considered three cases arising from the school board election that had taken place on 22 December of the previous year. One of the cases was a complaint that William Groom, who was a candidate for the school board, had provided drink at public houses in order to influence voters. Among the witnesses called was William Fearey, who the newspaper reported as living at 'Swineshead Oat Hill' (i.e. Holt Hills). The record of his evidence can be seen in Appendix E. This hearing must have been among William's last appearances at a public event as he died 24 days later. The following map shows the remote location of Holt Hills.[27]

William died of pneumonia on 27 March 1880 and was buried at Swineshead on 2 April.

At the time of the 1881 census, Ann was working on a farm and living at Holt Hills with her children Tom, Mary and Kate. During the 1880s, Ann moved to Northampton to be closer to her younger brother, James Colby (1835-1923)[28]. James had already reached that town by the time of his marriage at All Saints to Mary Jane Stevenson in 1872.

In 1891, Ann's home was at 14 Adnitt Place, Northampton along with her son Edward and his wife.

[26] *Boston Guardian*, 5 March 1880, page 3, columns 3-6.
[27] 1886-188 OS map, courtesy of the National Library of Scotland
https://maps.nls.uk/view/239763907
[28] Information from James' grandson, Horace William Colby (1906-1986).

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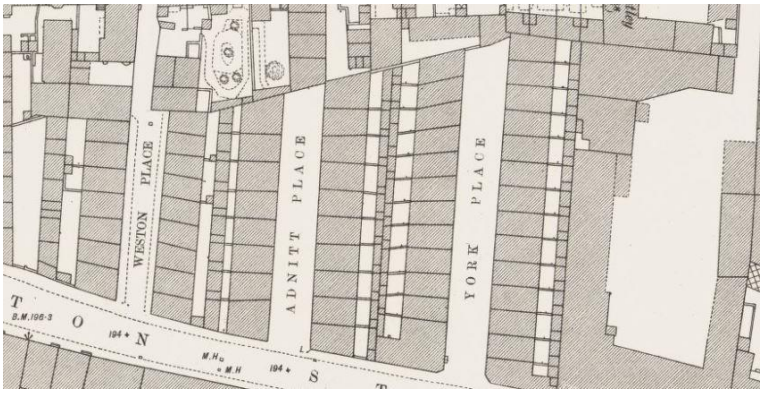

Adnitt Place was a courtyard lined with two rows of cottages whose front walls were about 20 feet apart.[29] It ran off the north side of Weston Street which ran west from Bridge Street, very close to the centre of Northampton. No.14 was on the east side of the courtyard. The Valuation Office survey compiled following the Finance Act 1910 stated that No. 14 was identical to 4 Adnitt Place, which it described as '2 rooms up. Living room & kitchen down. Washous & WC outside'.[30]

At the west end of Weston Street stood the gas works, where James Colby was the foreman and lived with his family in a house on the premises.

At the time of the 1901 census, Ann Fearey inhabited two rooms at 44 Melbourne Street, Northampton. James was still working as general foreman at the gas works but had moved home to 43 Beaconsfield Terrace, about one mile from Ann's home.

Ann Fearey has not been located in the 1911 census; the schedule completed for 44 Melbourne Street only records three members of the Marriott family present there. However, when Ann died on 12 August 1913 of 'morbus cordis' (i.e. heart disease) it was at that address. Her daughter Kate Clements was present at the death.

Mary Fearey (1866-1910)

Mary was born at Heckington on 30 October 1866 and baptised there on 30 December of the same year. The 1871 census records her living with her parents and the one held ten years later included her in the household of her widowed mother at Holt Hills.

Her granddaughter Eileen Dalby was told that Mary had been in service at Naseby, Northamptonshire as a young woman but no documentary evidence of this has been found.

Edwin Dalby married Mary Fearey at Dover Street Baptist Church, Leicester on 21 May 1888. Edwin was the youngest of ten children of Francis Dalby and his wife Lydia Smith.[31] The church at Dover Street was not licenced for the solemnisation of marriages, so it was necessary for a registrar to be present. On the date that was originally set for the wedding, that person did not arrive, so the ceremony had to be postponed. The church building has since been much altered and is now the home of The Little Theatre.[32]

[29] 1883 OS map, courtesy of the National Library of Scotland
https://maps.nls.uk/view/231276861
[30] The National Archives: IR58/59595, items 478 for No. 14 and 473 for No.4.
[31] See *Francis Dalby of Blaby (1821-1902)* by Francis Howcutt
https://archive.org/details/1821-francis-dalby-blaby-v-03
[32] https://thelittletheatre.co.uk/

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The following picture of Mary and Edwin was taken around the time of their marriage.

Immediately before their wedding, Edwin was living at 25 Clara Street and Mary was at Fernleigh, Kirby Muxloe - the left half of a pair of semi-detached houses which still stand on the north-east side of Station Road (show below).

The two houses were built in 1880 by James Turner, an elastic web maker who lived at Fernleigh until 1898.[33] When the 1891 census took place, those present at the address

[33] *Old Kirby Muxloe* by Jonathan Wilshere (Leicester, 1986), pages 19, 23 & 24.

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were James, his wife, father-in-law, five children and one domestic servant. So, it is likely that Mary had been kept quite busy ministering to the household.

Edwin and Mary's son, Ernest Edwin, was born on 12 August 1890 at 217 Avenue Extension Road, Knighton, Leicester. Edwin Dalby is listed in the same road as a boot repairer in the 1889/90 edition of C N Wright's Directory of Leicester. The 1891 census recorded Edwin, Mary and Ernest there along with Edwin's mother Lydia Dalby who was described as a widow though in fact her husband had absconded to Philadelphia and was still alive.[34] By the time Edwin's mother died at Leicester Union workhouse in December 1893, 45 Coventry Street, which led off the south side of King Richards Road, Leicester was the home of Edwin and his family.

Avenue Road Extension in 1911

The 1901 census recorded Edwin, Mary and Ernest living in three rooms at 70 Lower Kennington Lane, with Edwin working as a life insurance agent. The 1905 electoral register recorded Edwin Dalby only a short distance from there at 15 Alberta Street, Penton Place, Newington. Edwin's sister, Lydia Sarah Ann Dalby (known as 'Annie') had married John Samuel Goode in 1876. The Goude family were living at 16 Crampton Street, Walworth in 1901, so almost certainly the reason for Edwin moving to that particular part of London was the presence of his sister who, he said, had played a large part in bringing him up.

From 1906 to 1911, Edwin was registered to vote from the address 52 Robsart Street, Brixton. The Post Office Directory for 1906/7 lists him there as a confectioner. Mary ran the shop and Edwin continued working as a life assurance agent. He appears at the same address with the latter description in the 1911/2 edition of that directory and likewise in the 1911 census which stated that the property had five rooms.

Mary Dalby suffered from cancer of the throat. An operation was not successful. She died at 52 Robsart Street on 26 June 1910 and was buried at Streatham Park Cemetery.[35]

Eileen Dalby, the granddaughter of Mary, was told that Mary and her sister Kate looked much alike. After Mary died in June 1910, Kate stayed to help at the Dalby home at Brixton for a while.

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[34] *Francis Dalby of Blaby (1821-1902)* by Francis Howcutt
https://archive.org/details/1821-francis-dalby-blaby-v-03
[35] Grave no. 4300, square 2.

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52 Robsart Street stood on the north side of the road in an area that is now laid out as open space called Slade Gardens. It was on the right-hand side of the road as shown in the following picture.

Robsart Street looking west

There is a mystery connected with Edwin and Mary's offspring. Within living memory, only their son Ernest Edwin has been mentioned. However, the 1911 census schedule included a section requesting for each married woman the number of completed years of the present marriage, the number of children born alive of that marriage and the number of children still living. When Edwin completed and signed that schedule for his household he described himself as a widower but added that the 'present marriage' had lasted 23 years and produced two children, both still living. The second child has not been identified.

Thomas Fearey (c.1854-1934): brother

No record has been found of Thomas' birth being registered. When living with his parents at the time of the 1861, 1871 and 1881 censuses, his birthplace was recorded as Chichester, Sussex. Later censuses show his birthplace as Boston (1891), Heckington (1901), Lincolnshire (1911) & Heckington (1921). The large discrepancy may be explained by the fact that the family returned to Lincolnshire very early in Thomas' life; he may well not have known about a connection with Sussex.

On 22 May 1882, 'William Thomas Fearey' and Ann Elizabeth Emson, both of 51½ Croft Street, were married at St. Swithin, Lincoln, the church pictured below.[36] Both wrote their marks in the register.

[36] Picture courtesy of Wendy Parkinson via Wikimedia Commons. Licensed under the CC BY-SA 2.0 licence. https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/

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Thomas and Ann had five children:

	Born	Married	Died
William Henry Teesdale	1882	Ann Rebecca Peet 1903	1906
Elizabeth Ann	1884	n/a	1884
John Thomas	1888	Sarah J Colson 1928	1957
Benjamin Cornelius	1889	n/a	1889
James Edward	1890	Helen Ironmonger 1915	1962

The 1891 census records Thomas as a foundry labourer living with his wife and their three surviving children in a four-room house at 11 Williamson Square, Lincoln.

Ann Elizabeth's death at the age of 41 was registered at Lincoln in the latter part of 1899.

In 1901, Thomas, then working as a bricklayer's labourer, was a boarder in the household of a widow 'Mrs Hudson' and her four children at 3 Williamson Square. Thomas' three sons have not been found anywhere in that census.

Greetwell ironstone quarries were on the north-eastern outskirts of Lincoln. Disaster struck on 7 March 1906 when Thomas was injured and his son William was killed there. They had been engaged in removing a block of earth when a fall of stone buried William and broke Thomas' legs, resulting in the amputation of a foot. William died of a broken neck. The inquest was held two days later at Lincoln and concluded that this was an accident for which no one was to blame – a conclusion which must have been a relief for shareholders of the Mid-Lincolnshire Ironstone Company and the insurers who were both represented at the hearing. The accident and inquest were reported by the Stamford Mercury[37] and, with much more detail, by the Lincolnshire Echo[38].

On 25 December 1907, Thomas Fearey described himself as a labourer of 15 Bridge Street when he married Florence Amelia Brandham Hudson at St Swithin's. She was described as a widow of the same address.

Thomas and Florence were still living in the four-room house at 15 Bridge Street when the 1911 census was held. They were accompanied by Thomas' sons John Thomas and James as well as Robert, Frederick and Walter Hudson, who were teenaged offspring of Florence's previous marriage. Thomas Fearey had made a mark when he married in 1907 but appears to have signed his name when completing that census schedule.

The death of Florence Amelia Brandon Fearey aged 53 was registered in September quarter 1918 at Lincoln.

In 1921, Thomas was one of eight people in the four-room house at 48 Bridge Street, headed by his youngest son. His occupation was recorded as a 'navvie' working for 'Wm Wright & Son at City Power Houes'.

The death of Thomas Fearey aged 79 was registered in June quarter 1934 at Lincoln.

[37] *Stamford Mercury*, 16 March 1906, page 4, column 9.
[38] *Lincolnshire Echo*, 9 March 1906, page 3, column 3.

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Anthony Fearey (1856-1857): brother

Anthony son of William & Ann Fearey of Heckington was baptised there on 2 November 1856. Hs death certificate states that he died at Heckington on 25 March 1857 at the age of five months. The cause of death was certified as 'Tabes Mesenterica from Birth' (i.e. a tubercular infection of the lymph glands in the abdomen). The informant was Mary Colby of Heckington and the death not registered until 21 May 1857, almost two months after it had taken place. No record has been found in Heckington parish register of Anthony's burial, nor is it recorded in the FMP index to its scans of Lincolnshire parish registers.

Betsey Fearey (1858-): sister

Betsey was born at Heckington and baptised there on 25 July 1858. She was living with her parents at the times of the 1861 and 1881 censuses.

The 1881 census recorded Betsey as the cook, one of three resident servants in the house of William Ralph Walker, a hosiery manufacturer living at Knighton, on the southern outskirts of Leicester. The next house recorded in the schedule was the home of Eliza Mary Lee, who was also attended by three resident servants. Amongst them was John Tilley, the coachman. In the third quarter of the same year, the marriage of Betsey Fearey and John Tilley took place in the Leicester registration district. Their children were:

	Born	Married	Died
Alfred	1882	Frances Maud Crisp 1910	1953
William Sidney	c.1884	Alice Maude Marsland 1910	1934
Hilda Augusta Maud	1885	William F Nicholls 1918	1971
Elsie Letitia	1894	James Trowman 1920	1965
Gladys Highleen Nellie	1897	Harold Rycroft 1917	1982

Ten years later, the family were recorded at the Porter's Lodge of Glen Hall at Great Glen, some six miles south-east of the centre of Leicester. John's occupation was again given as a coachman. The family were still there in 1901, with the description of their home being on that occasion 'lodge entrance to Hall'.

Great Glen Lodge

The 1911 census records 'Elizabeth Tilley', described as aged 50 and born at Heckington, living at 5 Ireton Street, Nottingham in a household that included her daughters Elsie and Highleen. John Tilley was recorded by the same census at 48 Carlton Road, Ashton-upon-Mersey in the household of his son William. The reason for their being at different addresses on the census night is not known.

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John's death has not been identified but at the time of the 1921 census, Betsey was described as a widow living in a 7-room house at 492 Stretford Road, Cornbrook, Manchester with her daughters Elsie and Gladwys, their husbands and two boarders. Betsy inscribed her mark on the form, as head of the household. Neither has a record that is definitely of her death been found.

Jane Fearey (1860-1917): sister

Jane was born at Heckington and baptised there on 28 October 1860. She was living with her parents when the censuses took place in 1861 and 1871 but has not been found in the 1881 census.

Her marriage to Beaumont Chambers was registered in June quarter 1885 at Nottingham district. Their children included:

	Born	Married	Died
Bertha	1885	Leonard Brammer 1909	1969
William Anthony Christopher	1888	Jane Ann McKenzie 1915	1931
John Reginald	1891	Florence Bailey 1920[39]	1949
Edith Ann Grace	1893	n/a	1894
Betsey Alice Priscilla	c.1896	n/a	1929

Although only five children have been identified, when completing the schedule for the 1911 census, Beaumont stated that there had been six children in the family, two of whom had died.

For almost all of their marriage, Jane and Beaumont lived at Boston. The only record found of them apparently living elsewhere is in 1888 when their son William was born at Leicester.

In 1891, the family's home was at 45 Norfolk Street, Boston and Beaumont was working as a clothier's assistant. Ten years later, their home was at 6 Tyndell Street with Beaumont employed as a gas works stoker. In 1911, they occupied a six-room house at number 62 of the same road, with Beaumont still a stoker at the gas works.

The death of Jane Chambers aged 57 was registered in the March 1917 quarter at Holbeach district. This memorial notice published in 1927[40] provides further details:

> 'In loving memory of our dear father and mother, Beaumont and Jane Chambers, who passed away Dec. 31st 1926, and Jan 19th, 1917. God saw their footsteps falter, their steps grow tired and weak, So He bade them rest from their labours, As the pathway was too steep. -- Bertha and Alice.'

John Fearey (1862-1932): brother

John was born at Heckington and baptised there on 23 February 1862. He was living with his parents at the time of the 1871 census. Ten years later, John Fearey was described as a 'farm servant in door', when the census listed him as one of four servants present in the household of John Vacey at Hackthorne, a parish 30 miles north of Heckington.

[39] Groom described as a widower but the previous wife is not identified.
[40] *Boston Guardian*, 31 December 1927, page 11, column 6.

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Wootton parish register records the marriage on 5 August 1889 of John Fearey aged 27, bachelor, lamplighter, of Wootton (son of William Fearey deceased, labourer) & Alice Cross aged 27, spinster of Wootton (daughter of John Cross, labourer). Their children were:

	Born	Married	Died
Alice Louise	1890	Alexander Cecil Baker 1916	1965
William	1891	n/a	1891

It appears that during most, if not all, of their married life John and Alice lived at Northampton. For many years, John appears to have worked as a lamplighter, the occupation recorded for him in the 1891 census when the family lived at 21 Talbot Road and also in 1901 when they were at 33 Queens Road. By 1911, their home was a 5-room house at 5 St James Park Road and John was employed as a labourer at the nearby gas works. John and Alice were living at the same address in 1921, his occupation being recorded as a polisher and grinder at the gas company at Wellington Street. They were accompanied by their daughter Alice, her husband and their three young daughters.

The death of John Fearey aged 70 was registered in March quarter 1932 at Northampton district. Alice survived until 1937 when her death was registered, also at Northampton, in the third quarter of the year.

Edward Fearey (1864-1942): brother

Edward Fearey was born at Heckington on 1 August 1864 and baptised there 27 days later. He is recorded with his parents in the 1871 census but not been found in the 1881 census.

The marriage of Edward Fearey and Marion Bowkett was registered in June quarter 1890 at Northampton district. All the addresses mentioned below as connected with them are at Northampton. Their children were:

	Born	Married	Died
Violet Mabel	1891	n/a	1891
Percival Edward	1892	Elsie Wilcox 1919	1952
Lily Mabel	1894	Charles Bonham 1922 Thomas Charles Lewis 1966	1983
William	1895	n/a	1898
Frances Marion	1897	n/a	1898
Doris Winifred	1899	George E Auburn 1920	1983
Eva Madeline	1901	John S Coombes 1925	1961
Sidney Bertram	1903	Olive Lester 1929	1963
Donald Stewart	1905	[single in 1939]	1987

The 1891 census recorded them living with Edward's mother at 14 Adnitt Place; Edward and his family were at the same address in 1901 but had moved the short distance to 11 Commercial Street in time for the 1911 census. The 1921 census recorded Edward and Marion in a 6-room house at 44 King Street along with their children Lily, Eva, Sydney and Donald. Edward was still a blacksmith (as in earlier censuses) but the four children were all employed in various roles in the boot and shoe trade.

The 1939 population list includes Edward and Marion at 23 Cloutsham Street, along with their son Donald S and widowed daughter Lily M Bonham. Edward's home was still at that address when he died on 19 February 1942. Administration was granted to his widow Marion on 7 April of the same year and his effects valued at a total of £166.4s.8d. Marion died at Northampton early in 1944.

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Kate Fearey (1871-1949): sister

Kate was born on 1 November 1871 at Swineshead and baptised there 16 days later. She was living with her widowed mother at the time of the 1881 census.

The marriage of Brice Marriott and Kate Farey was registered in March quarter 1889 at Northampton district. They had these children:

	Born	Married	Died
Brice William	1890	Ellen Mary Lang 1918	1947
Charles Kenneth	1892	Sophia Elizabeth Jones 1920	1943
Leonard	1894		1917

Brice Marriott was employed as a lamplighter when he, Kate and their son Brice were recorded by the 1891 census as living at 21 Bristol Street. By January 1893, they had moved to 45 Vernon Road when Brice Marriott, lamplighter, was fined one shilling at Northampton Borough Petty Sessions for having his chimney on fire.[41]

Brice was 34 years old when his death was registered in December quarter 1898 at Northampton district.

The register of St Edmund Northampton records the marriage on 14 October 1900 of James Richard Clements aged 35, widower, a laster of 1 Elizabeth Street (father = Edward Clements, a laster) & Kate Marriott aged 28, widow of 45 Vernon Street (father = William Fearey (deceased), a labourer) after banns. The bride & groom signed their names, as did the witnesses John Fearey and Alice Fearey. The child of Kate's second marriage was:

	Born	Married	Died
Highleen Nellie	1901	Sidney Thomas Moring 1922	1953

In the 1901 and the two following censuses, James and Kate were living in a 6-room house at 45 Vernon Road. In 1901, a total of 8 children from their previous marriages were living with them. By 1911, as well as their own daughter, they were accompanied by five children of Richard's first marriage and Kate's son Leonard. In 1921, the household consisted of James, Kate, Highleen and two of James' older children.

James Clements died at Northampton, where his death was registered early in 1931. When the 1939 population register was compiled in September 1939, Kate was living at 33 Lutterworth Road, Northampton along with her daughter Highleen and son-in-law Sidney Moring. At that stage, Highleen was bedridden although she had not reached her 38th birthday.

The death of Kate Clements aged 78 was registered at Northampton in the last quarter of 1949.

[41] *Northampton Mercury*, 13 January 1893, page 6, column 3

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Appendix A: Fearey marriages in Lincolnshire 1700-1800

The Lincolnshire Marriage Index and FreeREG list a total of twelve marriages in the county during 1700-1800 involving a person with the Fearey or similar surname. All of them have been checked with the parish registers. However, it is not certain that this a complete list of everyone with the surname who married in Lincolnshire during the period.

Year	Groom	Bride	Place	Linked
1720	John Ashwell	Mary Fery	Spalding	
1733	Thomas Wilson	Bridgett Furry	Minting	
1734	John Brown	Ann Fery	Gedney	
1746	Edward Fery	Harvey Sneath	Spalding	Yes
1756	John Furry	Elizabeth Hewson	Fulstow	
1776	Edward Feary	Elizabeth Capendale	Surfleet	Yes
1777	Robert Feary	Mary Haddon	West Deeping	Yes
1778	William Bampton	Ann Fearey	Thurlby by Bourne	(**)
1778	John Rawlinson	Harvey Feary	Surfleet	Yes
1780	Richard Hill	Mary Feary	Surfleet	Yes
1787	Benjamin Rowbottom	Jemima Feary	Market Deeping	
1794	Robert Feary	Lydia Kinsley	Sutterton	Yes

'Linked' means that a clear relationship with Edward Fearey & Harby Sneath has been established.

(**) Ann Fearey was a widow when she married William Bampton in 1778 and, although the precise connection with Edward & Harby is not known, her previous husband was presumably related to them as her 1778 marriage took place in the parish where their children were baptised between 1746 and 1757 and where Harby herself was buried in 1767.

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Appendix B: Thomas & Elizabeth Feary at Market Deeping

Four children of Thomas Feary/Fairy were christened at Market Deeping:

Name	Parents	Baptised	Married	Buried
Elisabeth	Thomas Fayry	1743		
Mary	Thomas & Elizabeth Feary	1746	John Talbot 1771	1818 (*)
Jemima	Thos Fairy	1749	Benjamin Rowbottom 1787	1795 (**)
Frances	Thomas Fairy	1751		

(*) After Mary Feary of Market Deeping married John Talbot at St John's Peterborough, she appears to have remained living at that city for the rest of her life.

(**) Benjamin Rowbottom, whom Jemima Feary married at Market Deeping on 25 July 1787 was a carpenter. It was there that she was buried in 1795.

The text of the will that Thomas Feary made on 21 June 1786 is set out below.

Market Deeping parish register records these burials:

- 8 October 1786 – 'Thomas Feary aged 64 of this parish'.
- 20 December 1790 – 'Elizabeth Feary aged 82 of this parish widow'

Possible origins of Thomas Feary

No christening record has been found that clearly relates to Thomas Feary of Market Deeping. However, the age of 64 recorded when he was buried in 1786 indicates he was born about 1722, so it is possible that one of these baptisms during the period 1719-1725 that have been found in Northamptonshire parish registers may be his:

- 12 April 1721 – Thomas the son of Clement Feary & Anne his wife at Brafield-on-the-Green ('Fairy' in the bishops transcript)
- 10 October 1722 – Thomas son of Mr Wm Farey at Kettering
- 25 August 1723 – Thomas son of Wm Feary labr. & Ann his wife at Grendon
- 22 March 1723/4 – Thomas son of Thomas Fary at Naseby

Nor has a marriage record been identified that might be of Thomas Feary and Elizabeth. However, it is feasible that he may have had relatives at two neighbouring parishes in Northamptonshire (both some 23 miles from Market Deeping) where these three Feary/Fairy girls were christened with the name Jemima – a name that Thomas gave to one of his daughters:

- 17 February 1744/5 – Jemmima daughter of John & Eliz: Fairy at Weldon
- 12 January 1755 – Jemima daughter of John & Sarah Feary at Corby
- 5 May 1771 – Jemima daughter of John & Sarah Fearey at Corby

It does seem likely that Thomas Feary who was living at Market Deeping and West Deeping between 1743 and 1786 was related to the Robert Fearey from Thurlby who married at West Deeping in 1777. It may well be that a reason for Robert to have gravitated there in time for his marriage was the presence of family members.

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Text of the will of Thomas Feary

In the Name of God Amen I Thomas Feary of the parish of West Deeping in the County of Lincoln Joiner being now of sound Mind and Memory and desirous of duly settling my Affairs Do make publish and declare this my Last Will and Testament previously revoking all other my former Wills.

My Soul I most humbly resign to the Divine Mercy and desire my Body may be decently interred. And as to my worldly Goods and Estate, I give and dispose thereof in Manner following (that is to say)

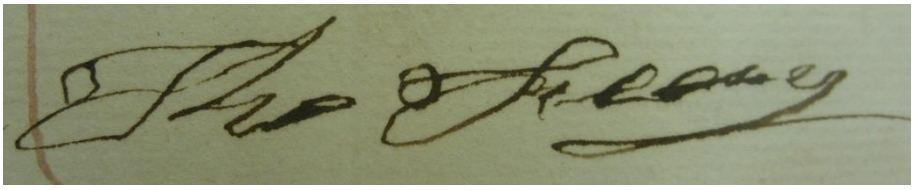
I give and devise to my Daughter Jemima Feary and her Assigns All that the Reversion and Inheritance immediately expectant on the Death of my Wife Elizabeth Feary, of and in a certain Messuage or Tenement in Market Deeping with the Appurtenances late the Estate of Elizabeth Royston Widow, and held of the Manor of East and West Deeping under the yearly Rent of three shillings and four pence Subject only to the true payment of thirty Pounds a piece to my other two Daughters Mary and Frances, or their legal Representatives within three Months next after their Mother's Decease Which said Reversion [I] have this Day surrendered to the Uses of my Last Will.

And I give to my Wife All my Household Goods and Furniture together with the Interest of all my Money now or hereafter to be placed out at Interest for and during her Life.

And Lastly I nominate and appoint my said Daughter Jemima residuary Legatee and sole Executrix of this my Last Will and Testament

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the twenty first Day of June in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and Eighty six.

Tho Feary [signed]



Signed sealed published and declared by the Testator Thomas Feary as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have subscribed our Names as Witnesses to the same in the Presence and at the Request of the said Testator and in the Presence of each other
J Thorpe [signed] Jno Mawby [signed] Jonn Miler [signed]

Probate

Probate was granted at Lincoln Consistory Court on 22 February 1789. Jemima Rawbottom late Feary, the Executrix named in the will was duly sworn & also made Oath that the said Thomas Feary did not die possessed of Goods, Chattels & Credits to the amount or value of one hundred pounds before me J Mossop Surrogate.

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Appendix C: Edward Feary & Elizabeth Capendale

Surfleet parish register records the burial on 27 November 1784 of Edward Feary aged 30. This age fits well with the date of 21 July 1754 on which the younger of Edward and Harby's two children with that name had been baptised at Thurlby.

Edward Fearey and Elizabeth Capendale, both of the parish, made their marks in the register when they were married at Surfleet on 23 April 1776. Their two children whose christenings are recorded at Surfleet were:

- John (1781)
- Mary (1783-1785)

Edward and Elizabeth also had a son, Robert, whose baptism does not feature in the Surfleet register with either his father or mother's surname (searched page-by-page from 1770 to 1791) or in the FMP index to its scans of Lincolnshire registers. However, apprenticeship records leave no room for doubt about this child's parentage. On 22 January 1789, Robert, son of Elizabeth Feary a widow of Surfleet, was apprenticed to Zacharias Wiley a cordwainer (i.e. shoemaker) of Sutterton. Robert was stated to be about 13 years old, which suggests he was probably born shortly before his parents were married at Surfleet on April 1776. The apprenticeship was arranged by the parish of Surfleet, indicating that Elizabeth and her family were then on poor relief. In due course, Robert the shoemaker established the Feary family at Sutterton.

It is probable that Robert's mother was the same person as Elizabeth Feary aged 69 who was buried on 29 June 1813 at Wyberton, some five miles north of Sutterton. This indicates she was born about 1743 or 1744. However, the only baptisms of an Elizabeth Capendale found in Lincolnshire within a decade of those years are:

- 24 December 1750 at Pinchbeck – daughter of Thomas & Mary Capendale
- 24 July 1751 at Swineshead – daughter of William & Ann Cappendale

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Appendix D: The Feary family at Sutterton

Robert Feary and Lydia Kinsley, both of Sutterton were married there on 2 June 1794. Robert signed the register as '*Rober [sic] Feary*' and Lydia made her mark. In due course, Robert and Lydia had twelve children:

Name	Baptised	Married	Buried
William	1795		
Mary	1797		
John	1799		1837
George	1801		
Kinsley [male]	1803	n/a	1803
Kinsley [male]	1804	Betsy Thompson 1826	1868
Elizabeth Ann	1806	John Thorlby 1826	1826
Maria	1808	William Lane 1832	
Eliza	1811		
Cornelius	1816	Mary Coy 1842	1852
Frederick [twin]	1819	n/a	1830
Keziah [twin]	1819	Zechariah Wigfall 1837 James Peace 1841	1875

The oldest three children were baptised at Frampton, about four miles to the north-east, after which the family moved back to Sutterton, where all nine younger children were christened. The entries in both parish registers include discrepancies:

- The surname of Robert and Lydia was written at Frampton as 'Fearey' (1795), 'Theory' (1797) and 'Leary' (1799).
- For the first two baptisms at Sutterton, the mother's name was initially written in the register as 'Lydia' but this was crossed through and 'Mary' substituted.
- The other seven baptisms at Sutterton all recorded the mother's name as 'Mary'.

However, when the baptism of Kinsley junior took place in 1804 his mother's maiden name was flagged up as 'Kinsley', thus proving that he was a child of the 1794 marriage. That Lydia and Mary were the same person is further confirmed by the presence of Lydia Feary as a cottager in the 1841 census of [Claydom?], Sutterton, her age group being given as '75' (i.e. 75-79) and her birthplace as Lincolnshire. 'Lydia Fearey of Sutterton aged 70' was buried there on 23 April 1843.

When some of his children were baptised, Robert Feary was described as a shoemaker or cobbler - the trade in which Robert of Surfleet had been apprenticed in 1789.

A notice published in the Stamford Mercury reported the death at Sutterton on Monday 4 April 1831 of 'Robert Feary, well known as a travelling shoemaker', his age being stated as 56.[42] He was buried at Sutterton two days later, the version of Robert's age written the parish register being 55. Both these figures align well with the age of about 13 recorded at the time of the apprenticeship indenture of January 1789.

[42] *Stamford Mercury*, 15 April 1831, page 3, column 2.

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Appendix E: Evidence of William Fearey, 1880[43]

WILLIAM FEAREY, on being examined, said : I live at Swineshead Oat Hill, and was a voter at the election of the School Board.

- Did you see anything of Mr. Groom on the election day? – Yes, I did.
- Did you see Reest? – Yes sir, I saw him.
- Did you hear Reest and Mr. Groom have any conversation? – Not particularly.
- Did you hear Mr. Groom say anything to him? – Not more than anybody else.
- What did you hear? – I heard him say he might go to the Bull and get some beer.
- Did he go to the Bull? – I don't know.
- Did you go? – Yes, I went.
- And got some beer? – Yes.
- Did you pay for it? – No.
- How came you to go there? – I heard Mr. Groom say so.

Cross-examined :

- Where was this? – It was in the Market-place.
- Was anything said about voting? – No.
- Did he ask you for your vote, or how you had voted? – No.
- Did you get a ticket? – No.
- Not from anybody? – No sir.
- And you got your beer without anything? – Yes sir.
- Were you at work that day? – Yes, till dinner time.
- And you got paid for the whole day? – Yes; it was on his own account that he paid me.
- Oh, of course. But did your master ask you to vote? – Yes.
- And he paid you for half a day for nothing? – I asked him if he had any objection who I voted for, and he said I might give the parson one (great laughter).
- If you would vote for the parson he would pay your day's wages? – He didn't tell me he would for that (laughter).
- Did Creasey ever say anything to you about voting? – No ; I don't know that he did.
- Did he not say you were to vote for Mr. Harrison, and you would have your half-day's wages for it? – Yes, he did say that to me (renewed laughter).

By the Bench : He said if I would vote for Mr. Harrison, I should not lose my half-day's wages.

- Were you working with Reest? – Yes, he was with me when Creasey old me that.
- Did you mention to Reest that Creasey had told you? – Yes, when we got to work.
- That was on the morning of the election? – Yes.
- And you got paid for the whole day? – Yes, sir.
- What was it Mr. Groom said? – He said we might go to the Black Bull and get some beer.
- He never asked you how you voted? – No, he never asked us for our votes.
- When did you tell anybody how you voted? – I never told anybody till I got a summons from Mr. Groom against Mr. Holmes and Mr. Harrison.
- And then you told that you were treated? – No ; that I was to have some beer.
- You don't call that treating, then? – No ; I was to have some 'lowance. (Laughter)

[43] *Boston Guardian*, 5 March 1880, page 3, column 4.

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Appendix F: Descent of Mary Fearey from Edward Fearey

Apart from Birmingham, Brixton, Leicester, Northampton & Streatham, all the places shown are in Lincolnshire

Edward FEAREY born c.1702 married 1745/6 Spalding buried 1763 Spalding	**Harby SNEATH** baptised 1725/6 Witham on the Hill buried 1767 Thurlby
Robert FEAREY baptised 1757 Thurlby married 1777 West Deeping buried 1834 Market Deeping	**Mary HADDON (formerly ROUSE)** buried 1781 Market Deeping
Robert FEAREY baptised 1777 West Deeping married 1801 Heckington buried 1816 Great Hale	**Catherine GREETHAM** baptised 1778 Heckington buried 1837 Great Hale
Anthony FEAREY born c.1801 Corby married 1823 Heckington died 1874 Heckington	**Mary FLATTERS** born 1803 Langtoft died 1861 Heckington
William FEAREY born 1831 Heckington married 1853 Heckington died 1880 Swineshead	**Ann COLBY** born 1832 Heckington died 1913 Northampton
Mary FEAREY born 1866 Heckington married 1888 Leicester died 1910 Brixton	**Edwin DALBY** born 1864 Birmingham died 1936 Streatham